

**GMC**<sup>®</sup>

**GLOBAL MACHINERY COMPANY**

**INSTRUCTION MANUAL**

**HT18V**

**18V Cordless Hedge  
Trimmer**



**2** YEAR  
REPLACEMENT  
WARRANTY

**30** DAY  
SATISFACTION  
GUARANTEE

• Melbourne • Perth • Auckland • Hong Kong • Shanghai  
• Taipei • New York • Verona • London • Paris

**HT18V**  
020826 HT18V E03

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## Full 2 Years Home Use Warranty

Whilst every effort is made to ensure your complete satisfaction with this tool, occasionally, due to the mass manufacturing techniques, a tool may not live up to our required level of performance and you may need the assistance of our service department.

This product is warranted for a 2-year period for home domestic use from the date of the original purchase. If found to be defective in materials or workmanship, the tool or the offending faulty component will be replaced free of charge with another of the same item. A small freight charge may apply.

The warranty replacement unit is only made available by returning the tool to the place of purchase with a confirmed register receipt. Proof of purchase is essential. We reserve the right to reject any claim where the purchase cannot be verified.

This warranty does not include damage or defects to the tool caused by or resulting from abuse, accidents, alterations or commercial or business use.

It also does not cover any bonus accessories unless the tool is a GMC Platinum Professional model.

Please ensure that you store your receipt in a safe place. Conditions apply to the above warranty.

If you need direction of what constitutes a free of charge warranty claim, please review the guide given on the rear of the Receipt Holder. An indication is given as to the types of claim that are permissible, and those that are not.



## Dear Customer

If you require any help with your product, whether it is a Warranty claim, spare part or user information, please phone our Help Line for an immediate response. Phone 1300 880 001 in Australia or 0800 445 721 in New Zealand.

## Introduction

Your new GMC power tool will more than satisfy your expectations. It has been manufactured under stringent GMC Quality Standards to meet superior performance criteria.

You will find your new tool easy and safe to operate, and, with proper care, it will give you many years of dependable service.

**Caution.** Carefully read through this entire Instruction Manual before using your new GMC Power Tool. Take special care to heed the Cautions and Warnings.

Your GMC power tool has many features that will make your job faster and easier. Safety, performance, and dependability have been given top priority in the development of this tool, making it easy to maintain and operate.

## Environmental protection



Recycle unwanted materials instead of disposing of them as waste. All tools, hoses and packaging should be sorted, taken to the local recycling centre and disposed of in an environmentally safe way.

## Description of symbols

The rating plate on your tool may show symbols. These represent important information about the product or instructions on its use.



Wear hearing protection.

Wear eye protection.

Wear breathing protection.



N380

Conforms to relevant standards for electromagnetic compatibility.



Use at a distance of at least

5m from other people.

## Specifications

Adaptor charger: 230-240V ~ 50 Hz

Battery pack: 2 x 18V

Charge time: 3-5 hours

Run time: Approximately 30 minutes\*

No-load speed: 1500SPM

\*Cutting time may vary dependant on the material being cut.

## Safety instructions

To use this tool properly, you must observe the safety regulations, the assembly instructions and the operating instructions to be found in this Manual. All persons who use and service the machine have to be acquainted with this Manual and must be informed about its potential hazards. Children and infirm people must not use this tool. Children should be supervised at all times if they are in the area in which the tool is being used. It is also imperative that you observe the accident prevention regulations in force in your area. The same applies for general rules of occupational health and safety.

The manufacturer shall not be liable for any changes made to the tool nor for any damage resulting from such changes.

Even when the tool is used as prescribed it is not possible to eliminate all residual risk factors. The following hazards may arise in connection with the tool's construction and design:

- Contact with the blade.
- Kickback.
- Blade fracture.
- Catapulting of blade pieces.
- Damage to eyes if effective safety glasses or shield are not worn.
- Damage to ears if effective ear defenders are not worn.
- Always remove the battery from the tool before making any adjustments or maintenance.

**WARNING.** When using power tools, basic safety precautions should always be taken to reduce the risk of fire, electric shock and personal injury. Also, please read and heed the advice given in the additional important safety instructions.

1. Keep the work area clean and tidy. Cluttered work areas and benches invite accidents and injury.
2. Consider the environment in which you are working. Do not use power tools in damp or wet locations. Keep the work area well lit. Do not expose power tools to rain and high humidity. Do not use power tools in the presence of flammable liquids or gases.
3. Keep visitors away from the work area. All visitors and onlookers, especially children and infirm persons should be kept well away from where you are working. Do not let others in the vicinity make contact with the tool.
4. Store tools safely. When not in use, tools should be stored in a dry, high place or locked up out of the reach.
5. Do not force the tool. The tool will do the job better and safer working at the rate for which it was designed.
6. Use the correct tool for the job. Do not force small

tools or attachments to do the job best handled by a heavier duty tool. Never use a tool for a purpose other than that for which it was intended.

7. Dress correctly. Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry. They can be caught in moving parts. Rubber gloves and non-slip footwear are recommended when working outdoors. If you have long hair, wear a protective hair covering.
8. Use safety accessories. Safety glasses and ear muffs should always be worn.
9. Do not overreach. Keep your footing secure and balanced at all times.
10. Look after your tools. Keep tools clean and sharp for better and safer performance. Follow the instructions regarding lubrication and accessory changes. Keep tool handles dry, clean and free from oil and grease.
11. Disable idle tools. Remove the battery from the tool before servicing and when the tool is not in use.
12. Avoid unintentional starting. Make sure that the switches are in the OFF position before attaching the battery.
13. Stay alert. Watch what you are doing. Use common sense. Do not operate a power tool when you are tired.
14. Check for damaged parts. Before using a tool, check that there are no damaged parts. If a part is slightly damaged, carefully determine it will operate properly and perform its intended function. Check for alignment of moving parts, binding of moving parts, breakage of parts, proper mounting and any other conditions that may affect the operation of the tool. A guard or other part that is damaged should be properly repaired or replaced by an authorised service facility, unless otherwise indicated in this Instruction Manual. Defective switches must be replaced by an authorised service facility. Do not use a tool if the switch does not turn the tool on and off correctly.

15. *Guard against electric shock. Prevent body contact with grounded objects such as water pipes.*
16. *Use only approved parts. When servicing, use only identical replacement parts. Use an authorised service facility to fit replacement parts.*
17. *Do not let tool run unattended. Always wait until your power tool has come to a complete stop before leaving it and remove the battery.*

**WARNING.** *The use of an accessory or attachment, other than those recommended in this Instruction Manual, may present a risk of personal injury.*

*The tool must be used only for its prescribed purpose. Any use other than those mentioned in this Manual will be considered a case of misuse. The user and not the manufacturer shall be liable for any damage or injury resulting from such cases of misuse.*

### **Additional safety rules for hedge trimmers**

- *Do not use the trimmer in the rain.*
- *Keep hands and fingers well away from the blade.*
- *Wear work gloves, eye protection, solid shoes and trousers when using this hedge trimmer.*
- *Always grasp both handles when operating the unit.*
- *Remove the battery when you have finished work, before cleaning or if you have been interrupted.*
- *This trimmer has been designed to cut soft, new growth and should not be used on branches, hard wood or other forms of cutting.*
- *Do not attempt to free a jammed blade before first switching off the machine and removing the battery.*
- *If you are interrupted when operating the trimmer, complete the process and switch off before looking up.*
- *Never allow untrained users or children to use the trimmer.*

*Wear goggles, Wear ear muffs.*

### **Unpacking**

*Due to modern mass production techniques, it is unlikely that your power tool is faulty or that a part is missing. If you find anything wrong, do not operate the tool until the parts have been replaced or the fault has been rectified. Failure to do so could result in serious personal injury.*

## Know your product

Before using the saw, familiarise yourself with all the operating features and safety requirements.

This trimmer is to be used for trimming soft, new growth only. Use the tool and accessories only for the applications intended. All other applications are expressly ruled out.

1. Rear handle trigger switch
2. Front handle bar switch
3. Front handle
4. Battery pack
5. Guard
6. Blade
7. Charging unit
8. Adaptor



## Charging the battery

The battery pack for this tool has been shipped in a low charge condition. You should charge the battery pack fully before use.

**WARNING.** Do not use an extension cord.

**WARNING.** Charge indoors only.

**WARNING.** Do not throw used batteries into a fire or water: it could cause an explosion! Please hand in non-working or used batteries, or tools with built-in batteries, to the environmentally safe disposal unit at a municipal waste-disposal centre, or to your dealer.

1. Connect the charging unit (7) to the adaptor (8) and connect the adaptor to a suitable pin socket.



2. Insert the battery (4) into the charger unit (7).

3. The battery charge time is approx. 3-5 hours, after which the battery pack (4) should be removed. A good indication for a fully charged battery is the temperature of the pack, which becomes fairly warm as the battery becomes fully charged.



4. After normal use, 3 hours of charging time is required for the battery pack to be fully charged. However, 4-5 hours charging will ensure a longer run time of your tool.

5. Do not charge batteries for "top up". Batteries should be placed on charge only when they are discharged.

6. If your battery delivers abnormal performance, discharge the battery completely (so that the hedge trimmer slows but does not stop completely) and then

charge it for approximately 8 hours but only until the battery starts to become warm to hot to touch. Do this 3 times and the battery should come back up to a good condition.

7. Unplug the charger when not in use and store it in a dry, secure place.

8. Avoid charging your battery in temperatures below 4°C and above 40°C. The ideal charging temperature is 20°C.

9. Always remove the battery pack and store it in a dry, secure place when the trimmer is not in use.

10. Battery charging should only be carried out indoors.

**WARNING.** Never leave a battery on charge once it's warm.

**WARNING.** Do not charge the battery for more than 8 hours, as this will damage the battery cells.

## Safety features

1. The fixed blade teeth have extended points with rounded ends to reduce the chance of injury in case of accidental contact.

2. The fixed blade is longer than the moving blade to guard against kickback should you inadvertently make contact with a wall or fence.

3. The rear handle trigger switch (1) and front handle bar switch (2) must be operated together to start the motor. This ensures that both hands are used to control the trimmer.

4. If either of the two switches is released, the tool is designed to stop rapidly.

## Switching on and off

1. To switch on, press both the trigger switch (1) and the bar switch (2) at the same time.

2. To switch off, release either switch.

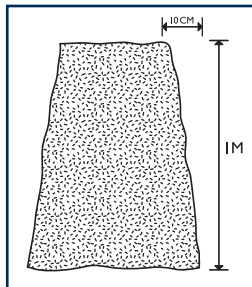


**NOTE.** If you notice some flashing in the ventilation shots, this is not a cause for alarm. It is normal and does not affect the operation of the tool.

There is also a slight burning smell. This comes from the electric brake and is not a cause for alarm either.

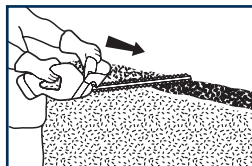
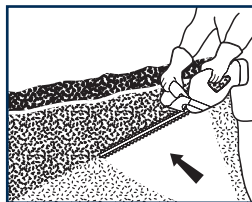
## Shaping

1. Trim a hedge so that it is wider at the bottom than the top.
2. This improves light penetration and promotes healthy growth.
3. Narrow the hedge approximately 100 mm for every metre in height.
4. A bush can be round or column shaped.



## Cutting

1. Assume a secure position, using two hands to hold the trimmer and switch on.
2. Trim both sides of the hedge, starting at the bottom. This prevents cuttings falling into the area yet to be cut.
3. Pass the blade lightly through the surface of the hedge. Do not attempt to cut too deep.
4. Trim the top of the hedge.
5. For older hedges that require cutting back substantially, use pruning shears to cut the thicker branches and then finish the job with the hedge trimmer.



**WARNING.** Do not let the blade come into contact with fencing wire or any other object that could damage it.

## Pruning

Your hedge trimmer is versatile. It can also be used for trimming back new growth from small shrubs onto the driveway or into the garden.

## Lubrication

**WARNING.** Switch off and remove the battery before carrying out any maintenance on the tool.

1. After each use, clean the blades and lightly lubricate with general purpose oil or spray lubricant.

## General inspection

1. Regularly check that all the fixing screws are tight. They may vibrate loose over time.

## Maintenance

1. Store the tool, instruction manual and accessories in a secure, dry place. In this way you will always have all the information and parts ready to hand.
2. Keep the tool's air vents unclogged and clean at all times.
3. Remove dust and dirt regularly. Cleaning is best done with compressed air or a rag.
4. Never use caustic agents to clean plastic parts.

**CAUTION.** Do not use cleaning agents to clean the plastic parts of the tool. A mild detergent on a damp cloth is recommended. Water must never come into contact with the tool.



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## Carefully read the entire *Instruction Manual* before using this product.

**Before returning this product for a Warranty Claim or any other reason**  
**Please Call 1300 880 001 (Australia)**  
**or 0800 445 721 (New Zealand)**

**When you make your call, please have the following information at hand:**

- **GMC Product Type**
- **GMC Product Code**

A GMC Service Engineer will take your call and, in most cases, will be able to solve your problem over the phone.

You are welcome to use this phone-in service to make suggestions or give comments about any GMC product.

With continuing product development changes may have occurred which render the product received slightly different to that shown in this instruction manual. The manufacturer reserves the right to change specifications without notice. Note: Specifications may differ from country to country.



The GMC 777 Helpline operates from 7am to 7pm, 7 days a week (EST). This allows you to contact GMC directly with any queries and technical questions you have regarding our products.



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**Save this Manual for future reference.**

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